

MR FASSETT STIRS A BRLEZE

THE CHEMUNG LEADER SPEAKS OUT
PLAINLY.

IN WHICH MR. PLATT SEEKS TO CONTROL
POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN HIS COUNTY.

Ex-Senator J. Sloat Fassett, of Elmira, was at the Waldorf Hotel yesterday. Mr. Fassett has

just returned from a meeting of the Chemung County Committee. The action of the committee was unsatisfactory to him, but he did not care to discuss it. When Mr. Fassel was seen he was seated in his room, in summer costume, reading a magazine, and did not look as if he had any troubles in the world. He talked freely about political affairs up the State, and his only reference to the action of the Chemung County Committee was that he had expected it. He said:

"Whatever may have been the action of the County Committee, I would like to draw attention to the action of the City Committee which met last Wednesday. Chemung County has about eighty thousand people, of whom forty thousand live in Elmira. Therefore, it can be seen that the action of the City Committee, which is composed of twenty-three members, cannot be ignored. In convention this committee adopted the following resolution unanimously:

"Resolved That strict adherence to the policy


home while within party lines is far more conducive to party welfare and harmony than the policy of not residing in the county, and such attempted interference should be resented by the party at heart. The speaker then adjourned the meeting.

IN FAVOR OF A LARGE COMMITTEE.

"This was supplemented by another resolution favoring an enlargement of the State Committee. These were two vicious dabs at Mr. Fassett, and show him that while he may possibly court a few rag-tag, bobtail, Falstaffian politicians, he does not own the party."—*The Tribune*.

Having reached the enlargement of the State Committee, Mr. Fassett said:

"I have never heard but two arguments against the enlargement of the committee. The first is that it will be too large. The second is that it will be too unwieldy. The first is a mere technicality. The second is a mere matter of management. The first is a mere technicality. The second is a mere matter of management. The first is a mere technicality. The second is a mere matter of management."



J. SLOAT FASSETT.

is that any chance or reorganization of the State machinery is looked upon by Mr. Platt as a personal attack on himself. Those are the only two arguments that I have heard.

"In the first place, I think that we ought to have a fair trial of our case. It would not

a committeeman from the party. We need a more organized organization of the State machine. It is necessary that we have a machine of some kind. Organization in the party is necessary to insure success. As it stands the power and patronage that come to a State committeeman are very pleasant. The trouble is that some of our Congress districts are unusually large, and extend over four or five counties. The result is that the representative from that district cannot possibly keep informed about all that is taking place. The present State machine is a fair one, but it is not a very good one.

chine is intrinsically weak. When patronage is to be distributed in one of the large districts, the county in which the representative lives and the friends of that committeeman get the bulk of it, and that leads to jealousy. Then again, in a campaign it would not be necessary to resort to the subterfuge of having accredited agents in every county to carry on the work. Such obstacles would

MR PLATT IS NOT THE PARTY.

"As to the second complaint against the enlargement of the committee, I hardly know what to say. Mr. Platt seems to have the same idea that William Barnes got, that he was the party. He believes that there was once a potentate who made the famous utterance, 'The State? I am the State.'"

Mr. Platt looks upon every proposed change in the party as a personal attack on himself."

Mr. Fassett feels confident that he will be a delegate to the next State Convention, in spite of the efforts of Mr. Platt to defeat him. The fight again Mr. Fassett that is being made by Mr. Platt and his cohorts is a particularly bitter one, because Mr. Fassett is keenly aware of the struggle that is being made on his behalf. Speaking of his chances as delegate to the convention, he said:

"It will be a feather in Mr. Platt's hat if he can defeat me as a delegate. I expect to be elected, however, and Mr. Platt will have to look elsewhere for a delegate to the convention."

for his father. Mr. Platt is moving heaven and earth to defeat me and control the election delegates, but the very fact that an outsider working against me will help me. He is distributing money and he has made more pro-

railroad passes gaioire, and he has made
ises than he can possibly fulfil. In fact, he h
promised more offices to men in my county th
Governor Morton has offices in his gift, but, if
all men engaged in Mr. Platt's kind of a fight,
has promised the same office to a half-dozen me
These men have begun to compare notes, and the
are aware of the game that is being played. T

Senatorship seems to be also within his gift. At least, all the men named in that connection claim to have his promise. These are Stewart, of Tompkins, and Cassidy, of Schuyler. He may be able to deliver the goods, but that remains to be proved.

MORE PROMISES THAN POSITIONS.

"A striking instance of this happened recently. A man came to me whom I counted a friend. He said that personally he was for me, but that politically he would have to fight me, as he had been promised a place in the Dairy Commissioner's Department. I asked him how such a promise could be made when the Dairy Commissioner had not yet been appointed yet. He replied that it would be right when a Commissioner was appointed. He remained in that faith until he made a trip to 300 Broadway and found out that many others there received the same promise that he had, and that

"That is the reason that an enrollment was made. We did not propose to have venal Democratic voters outvote the men who had long been the backbone of the party."

devoted to the welfare of the party. As long as friends were loudly for party enrolment, the Council Committee was against it. My friends wanted a 1 convention for obvious reasons, and the Council Committee also opposed that. Then it let it

know that the amendment would be a successful proposition; and that I was satisfied with the results of my own investigation. I wanted them to do. They came tonight and voted for an amendment and its late conversion to be held on convention. That is eminently satisfactory to me.

WHO ARE OPPOSING MR. FASSETT.

"There are two most active enemies in Congress are ex-Congressmen Flood and ex-P. M. County Flood. Concerning their war against the Republic." "These men are the head and front of the opposition, and are aided and abetted by Mr. P. M. The men who are fighting us in Chicago, and have had more than enough of our Congressmen and Republicans. Few of them are straight-outen up Republicans. These Floods are the men who opposed the election of Noyes to Congress, and they will now oppose the election of Fassett. In this case it was Mr. Cobb, of Alabama, made celebrated query of where, and why? When we were elected, and the Floods, much to their credit."

"The action of the City Committee last Wednesday leads me to say that I do not think that either of the Floods, or, in fact, any one who is identified with Mr. Platt, will be chosen from Chemung as a delegate to the next State Convention."

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